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WARNING TO BUSINESSES

Chamber warns of scammers

Group says to call the cops if company calls

By Jolene Cleaver
jcleaver@oneidadispatch.com
@DispatchCleaver on Twitter

ONEIDA » They're back.

The Greater Oneida Chamber of Commerce has again reported that an out-of-state marketing company has been calling local businesses, who are chamber members, trying to sell ads on maps for the area.

This has happened before.

In October, members reported receiving calls from Moline, Ill.-based Fanfare Sports Marketing. The company was soliciting ads to print on sports paraphernalia such as rally flags and water bottles. The items were then sent to Oneida High School to be handed out at sporting events. However, the products were never delivered.

This time around, it's maps, said a Chamber of Commerce representative.

This past week, members reported that an "Ashley Marshall" had been calling from Universal AdCom — the parent company of Fanfare Sports Marketing — implying the chamber provided their names so the outfit could sell them ads on a city map.

The phone number that appeared on a chamber member's caller ID was 563-386-8144.

As previously reported, when asked to comment on Fanfare Sports Marketing activities involving Oneida High School, Lisa Humble, corporate manager at Arlington, Texas-based Universal AdCom, said her company has a contract with the people she says they call. Humble even provided a copy of the signed contract between Universal AdCom and the Oneida City School

SCAMMERS » PAGE 2

SYLVAN BEACH

ICY WATERS RECEDE

JOHN HAEGER/ONEIDA DAILY DISPATCH

Ice flows in the canal and into Oneida Lake at Sylvan Beach Thursday. The flow caused flooding up stream and evacuation of residents.

By The Dispatch Staff

SYLVAN BEACH » The water level went down in Sylvan Beach Thursday night following flooding that caused residents of a neighborhood on the east side of the village to evacuate, officials said.

Flooding in a neighborhood on the east side of Sylvan Beach prompted a number of residents to voluntarily evacuate their homes, as up to six feet of water invaded certain areas.

Late Thursday morning residents in the Waterview Drive vicinity began noticing water flowing into their yards.

An ice jam created in Fish Creek - about three-quarters of a mile east of the village - and the Barge Canal was to blame. The flowing water had no place else to go except into the yards of residents, said members of the Sylvan Beach Fire Department. By 2 p.m. most of the residents and their pets had voluntarily evacuated the area and moved to safe locations.

National Grid crews shut off power connections to residences that were becoming submerged by the icy water.

The blockage moved Thursday night, and water began flowing to its proper place.

Water rescue teams from Taberg and Oriskany fire departments were on hand to help evacuate residents and the North Bay Fire Department was on standby at the Sylvan Beach fire station.

Fire crews roughly estimated that between 40 and 50 homes were affected by the rising water.

GUNS

Gun owners have new set of guidelines

By Jolene Cleaver
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After the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., state lawmakers hurried to introduce the first new gun control laws in the nation in an effort to close what they felt were loopholes in existing state law.

The NY SAFE Act was signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Jan. 15.

On Jan. 21, New York state launched a website that answers frequently asked questions about the new gun laws.

The site can be found at: www.nysafeact.com

Prior to the gun laws, Cuomo and many lawmakers said there

GUNS » PAGE 4

AP PHOTO/PHILIP KAMRASS

A customer looks at shotguns at the New York State Arms Collectors Association Albany Gun Show.

COLLECTORS

Farm toy enthusiasts meet for annual show

The Madison Central School FFA provided fun and memories Saturday for the residents of Madison. **PAGE B5**

BASKETBALL

Thomas scores 2,000th point

Morrisville-Eaton senior Will Thomas netted his 2,000th career point in a loss to Waterville Saturday. **PAGE D1**

OUTDOORS

Kirkville resident named Sportsman of the year

Lloyd Weigel Sportsman of the Year at the show in Oneida. **PAGE B1**

NFL

Coaches, staff weigh in on Super Bowl

Area coaches and Dispatch staff members give their predictions for who will win Super Bowl XLVII. **PAGE D1**

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